

Message Text

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44

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R 192347Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, GAO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED GAO REVIEW OF US PARTICIPATION IN
MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

FRANKFURT FOR GAO

ROME FOR FODAG

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

1. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE GROUP OF GAO IS STUDYING MULTI-
LATERAL PLANNING, PROGRAMMING, MANAGING AND COORDINATING
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OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. GROUP IS INTERESTED IN WHAT US

OUGHT TO BE DOING IN THIS FIELD, NOT IN AUDITING WHAT IS BEING DONE. WITH THIS IN MIND, GAO TEAM WOULD LIKE TO VISIT YOUR POST TO LOOK AT US PROGRAMS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND HOW THEY MESH WITH THOSE OF UN AND OTHER DONORS. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

ADDIS ABABA - NOVEMBER 5-15

KINSHASA - NOVEMBER 15-25

MONROVIA - NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 5

2. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT THIS IS NEITHER AUDIT NOR INSPECTION, BUT RATHER FACT-FINDING VISIT TO ASSIST GAO IN ITS FURTHER ANALYSIS OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. THE EMBASSY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT ELMER STAATS, COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF GAO, TESTIFIED BEFORE CONGRESS ON MARCH 5, 1970

IN PART AS FOLLOWS: "I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT IS NOT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GAO TO REVIEW THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. INDEED, WE, LIKE OTHER GOVERNMENTS, DO NOT HAVE AUTHORITY TO AUDIT THEIR ACTIVITIES."

3. DEPT HAS CONSISTENTLY COOPERATED WITH GAO AND ITS INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OVER PAST FOUR YEARS AND WISHES CONTINUE TO DO SO. HOWEVER, IT IS AWARE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF A BILATERAL US INVESTIGATION OF MULTILATERAL UN ACTIVITIES, AND WISHES TO AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION TO HOST GOVERNMENT AND TO REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES RESIDENT IN YOUR COUNTRY THAT US, AS ONE MEMBER OF 135-NATION UN, IS ATTEMPTING TO INVESTIGATE A PARTICULAR UN AGENCY IN YOUR COUNTRY. DEPT DOES AGREE THAT IT IS WITHIN GAO'S MANDATE TO EXAMINE MANAGEMENT OF US INTERESTS IN UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS.

4. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE, DEPT WOULD BE GUIDED INITIALLY BY EMBASSY'S EVALUATION OF HOST COUNTRY'S PROBABLE REACTION TO VISIT. IF EMBASSY AGREES, DEPT IS PREPARED TO APPROACH UNDP HEADQUARTERS AND REQUEST, ON INFORMAL BASIS, UNDP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADMINISTRATOR TO ASK RESREP IN YOUR COUNTRY TO COOPERATE TO UTMOST WITH GAO TEAM DURING COURSE THEIR VISIT. DEPT ALSO PREPARED, IF EMBASSY AGREES, BASED ON EVALUATION LOCAL SITUATION, TO APPROACH DIRECTOR GENERAL FAO AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WFP TO ASK THEM TO INSTRUCT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO COOPERATE WITH GAO.

5. YOUR CONCURRENCE IN THE PROPOSED GAO VISIT IS

REQUESTED. RUSH

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To: ADDIS ABABA MONROVIA
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